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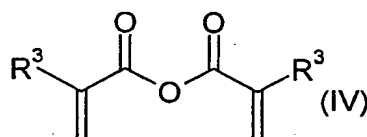
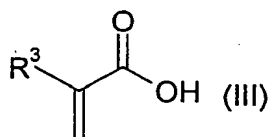
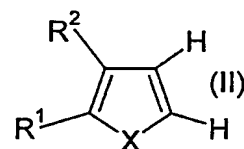
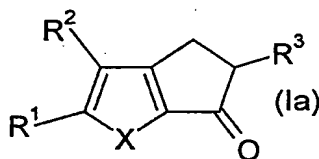
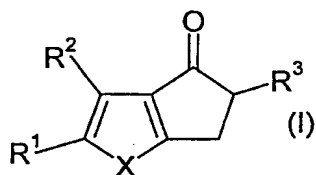
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(54) Title: PREPARATION OF HETEROCYCLIC KETONES



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a process for preparing heterocyclic ketones of the formulae (I) and (Ia), by reacting a heterocyclic compound of the formula (II), with an α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid of the formula (III), or with its anhydride of the formula (IV), where R¹ is hydrogen or a C₁-C₄₀ carbon-containing group, R² is hydrogen or a C₁-C₄₀ carbon-containing group, or R¹ and R² together form a cyclic ring system, R³ is a C₁-C₄₀ carbon-containing group and X is an element of the 16th group of the Periodic Table or is a divalent nitrogen group -(N-R⁴)-, where R⁴ is an electron-withdrawing radical which is selected from the group consisting of perhalogenated C₁-C₄₀ carbon-containing radicals and C₁-C₄₀ organosulfonyl groups.